10/27/88

Dear Jim,

I am disturbed by Zapruder's effort to extend the copyright law in his offer to settle and I will not do this.

Without thereby recognizing that he has a legal copyright on the JFK assassination film I will treat it as though he did, with the assurance that I will not make or permit to be made any commercial use of it.

Absent some provision of law of which you can inform me, because I am familiar with book copyrights I will treat the film as a copyrighted book.

He and his counsel appear not to understand scholarhip from these new demands, which include that I may not show any part of the film in any form to other scholars in the field or were I to lecture or conduct a seminar in the local college, which I have done to small audiences. The seminars are with students in a course in political assassinations. They have used my other records and film without any problems at all in their studies and I see no reason consistent with their own compliance with the copyright laws for them to demand that I deny access to these college students.

I regard their efforts to get me to agree to what is not required by the laws as an effort to continue to suppress this essential part of our history and there is no way I will agree to this.

I have used this film fairly and without commercial taint for 24 years without a complaint from them, including the father, who was aware of it, or from Time., Inc., which was aware of it ~~for~~ at least 22 years and without reasonable question my uses have been exclusively scholarly.

Please give them to understand that without some compelling contrary opinion from you I will adhere to this postition.

Harold Weisberg

Harold

I will agree to a copyright notice being affixed to each frame but without any extension of copyright being included in the language but I am not in a position to do this myself, as you know.